REMARKS

This application has been further reviewed in light of the Office Action dated October 12, 2010. Claims 18 to 21 remain pending in the application, of which Claims 18 and 21 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 18 to 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. The rejections are traversed. Specifically, it is noted that Fig. 6 and at page 21, line 25 to page 24, line 6, elements 509 to 514 of Fig. 6 correspond to the second character codes in the e-mail, while elements 521 to 524 correspond to the first character codes in the e-mail. Moreover, reference numerals 304 and 307 of Fig. 4 provide for turning on the OCR process (for the first character codes) and for inputting text (for the second character codes). Thus, the claims are believed to be fully supported by the original specification and reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 112, first paragraph rejections are respectfully requested.

Claims 18 to 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Without conceding the correctness of the rejections, the claims have been amended to clarify the claimed subject matter. As for the second classification information, it is noted that it is associated with the character input unit. As described at page 20, line 24 to page 21, line 12, a software keyboard used as the character input unit depends on the places of destination and may be in Japanese, Korean, etc. Nonetheless, "how" the first and second classification information is acquired is of little consequence to the claimed invention, but rather, the fact that the classification information is included in the header as claimed is more relevant. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 112, second paragraph rejections are respectfully requested.

Claims 18, 19 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Publication No. 2004/0064515 (Hockey) in view of "Document Recognizer and Language Processor" (Ayako), and Claim 20 was rejected under § 103(a) over Hockey in view of Ayako and further in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0193986 (Schrris). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested in light of the following comments.

The claims generally relate to generating a multipart e-mail that includes characters obtained by OCR of a scanned document and characters input by a user. According to the claims, first character codes representing characters included in the scanned OCR image are acquired and second character codes which represent characters input by the user via a character input unit are acquired. A setting screen is then displayed for inputting an instruction to embed characters included in the scanned image in the e-mail and to input characters to embed in the e-mail via the character input unit. When the instruction is input in the setting screen, an e-mail is generated in which the first character codes are described in a first part of the e-mail and first classification information which indicates the type of first character codes in a header of the first part of the e-mail. The second character codes are described in a second part of the e-mail and second classification information which indicates the type of second character codes in a header of the second part of the e-mail. The e-mail is then transmitted.

By virtue of this arrangement, it is ordinarily possible to clearly display a multipart e-mail which includes a first area of characters acquired by OCR (e.g., from a scan of an attached image), and a second area of characters input by a user even if the characters of the first and second areas are in different languages.

Referring specifically to the amended claim language, Claim 18 is directed to a communication apparatus which is connectable to a network and which is configured for generation of a multipart e-mail and transmission of the e-mail, comprising a scanning unit constructed to scan an image on a document, a first acquiring unit constructed to execute a character recognition processing for the image scanned by the scanning unit and acquire, as a result of the character recognition processing, first character codes which represent characters included in the image, a second acquiring unit constructed to acquire second character codes which represent characters input by a user via a character input unit for inputting characters represented by the second character codes, a displaying unit constructed to display a setting screen for inputting an instruction to embed the characters included in the image in a data area of the e-mail and inputting characters to be embedded in the data area of the e-mail via the character input unit, a generating unit constructed to generate, when the instruction to embed the characters included in the image in the data area of the e-mail is input on the setting screen and the characters to be embedded in the data area of the e-mail are input in the setting screen by the user via the character input unit, the e-mail by describing the first character codes acquired by the first acquiring unit in a data area in a first part of the e-mail and first classification information which indicates the type of the first character codes in a header area in the first part of the e-mail, and by describing the second character codes acquired by the second acquiring unit in a data area in a second part of the e-mail and second classification information which indicates the type of the second character codes in a header area in the second part of the e-mail, and a transmission unit constructed to transmit the e-mail generated by the generating unit.

Claim 21 is a method claim substantially corresponding to Claim 18.

The applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of independent Claims 18 and 21, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of i) displaying a setting screen for inputting an instruction to embed the characters included in the image in a data area of the e-mail and inputting characters to be embedded in the data area of the e-mail via the character input unit, and ii) generating, when the instruction to embed the characters included in the image in the data area of the e-mail is input on the setting screen and the characters to be embedded in the data area of the e-mail are input in the setting screen by the user via the character input unit, the e-mail by describing the first character codes acquired by the first acquiring unit in a data area in a first part of the e-mail and first classification information which indicates the type of the first character codes in a header area in the first part of the e-mail, and by describing the second character codes acquired by the second acquiring unit in a data area in a second part of the e-mail and second classification information which indicates the type of the second character codes in a header area in the second part of the e-mail.

Hockey is seen to disclose that a summary digest of a message is generated and the summary digest is compared to other stored summaries, and if the number of matches exceeds a certain value, and alarm is provided. The message may be multipart in that it can include textual and non-textual message bodies to be represented. Hockey discloses that header fields conventionally define the type of data contained in the main body and may specify any encoding necessary for the purposes of transfer of information. Further, Hockey discloses that if the header fields may be empty, the main body is conventionally interpreted as comprising US-ASCII text (paragraph [0086] and [0087]).

In the Office Action, it is acknowledged that Hockey does not expressly disclose a scanning unit constructed to scan an image on a document. Accordingly, it is clear that Hockey fails to disclose that a multipart e-mail is generated by combining the result of the character recognition processing of the scanning unit and the characters input by the user via a character input unit. It is also clear that Hockey fails to disclose a setting screen which is used by the user for generating a multipart email constructed by the result of the character recognition processing of the scanning unit and the characters input via a character input unit by the user. Accordingly, Hockey is not seen to teach the foregoing features of the claims..

Ayako is seen to disclose a language processor that recognizes a type of language of a text. Ayako is not, however, seen to teach the multipart e-mail generation of the present claims. Accordingly, the combination of Hockey and Ayako would not have resulted in teaching the features of i) displaying a setting screen for inputting an instruction to embed the characters included in the image in a data area of the e-mail and inputting characters to be embedded in the data area of the e-mail via the character input unit, and ii) generating, when the instruction to embed the characters included in the image in the data area of the e-mail is input on the setting screen and the characters to be embedded in the data area of the e-mail are input in the setting screen by the user via the character input unit, the e-mail by describing the first character codes acquired by the first acquiring unit in a data area in a first part of the e-mail and first classification information which indicates the type of the first character codes in a header area in the first part of the e-mail, and by describing the second character codes acquired by the second acquiring unit in a data area in a second part of the e-mail and second classification information which indicates the type of the second character codes in a header area in the second part of the e-mail.

Schrris is not seen to make up for the deficiencies of Hockey and Ayako. In this regard, Schrris is merely seen to teach a system for generating a multilingual e-mail. Schrris is not, however, seen to teach anything that, when combined with Hockey and/or Ayako, would have resulted in the features of i) displaying a setting screen for inputting an instruction to embed the characters included in the image in a data area of the e-mail and inputting characters to be embedded in the data area of the e-mail via the character input unit, and ii) generating, when the instruction to embed the characters included in the image in the data area of the e-mail is input on the setting screen and the characters to be embedded in the data area of the e-mail are input in the setting screen by the user via the character input unit, the e-mail by describing the first character codes acquired by the first acquiring unit in a data area in a first part of the e-mail and first classification information which indicates the type of the first character codes in a header area in the first part of the e-mail, and by describing the second character codes acquired by the second acquiring unit in a data area in a second part of the e-mail and second classification information which indicates the type of the second character codes in a header area in the second part of the e-mail.

In view of the foregoing, Claims 18 to 21 are believed to be allowable.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

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